

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A composition system comprising:  
2 a sound bank containing at least one instrument sound;  
3 an input device for receiving music control signals;  
4 a sequencer coupled to the input device for storing the music  
5 control signals; and

6 a work manager coupled to the sound bank and to the  
7 sequencer for generating a musical work file containing the music  
8 control signals and at least a portion of the sound bank.

1 2. The composition system of claim 1 further comprising a sound  
2 editor for modifying the sound bank.

1 3. The composition system of claim 2 wherein modifying the  
2 sound bank includes adding instrument sounds to, deleting an  
3 instrument sound from and modifying an instrument sound  
4 contained in the sound bank.

1 4. The composition system of claim 1 wherein the input device is  
2 a MIDI input device.

24

1 5. The composition system of claim 4 wherein the input device is  
2 a computer keyboard.

1 6. The composition system of claim 1 wherein the work manager  
2 includes a header utilities engine for generating a header to the  
3 musical work file.

*sub A1* 1 7. The composition system of ~~claim 6~~ wherein the header includes  
2 a title, a serial number and the ~~composer's~~ name.

1 8. The composition system of claim 1 wherein the work manager  
2 includes a work certifier for certifying the musical work file.

1 9. The composition system of claim 1 wherein the work manager  
2 includes a data I/O engine for storing the at least a portion of the  
3 sound bank and the music control signals into the musical work file.

1 10. The composition system of claim 9 wherein the music control  
2 signals include a work link, and the data I/O engine further stores  
3 the work link to the musical work file.

1 11. The composition system of claim 9 wherein  
2 the music control signals include a music sequence, mix  
3 changes and effect changes; and  
4 the data I/O engine further stores the music sequence, the mix  
5 changes and effect changes to the musical work file.

1 12. The composition system of claim 11,  
2 further comprising an effect bank storing effect and mix  
3 algorithms; and  
4 wherein the data I/O engine stores the effect bank to the music  
5 work file.

1 13. The composition system of claim 1,  
2 further comprising a sample bank; and  
3 wherein the work manager stores the sample bank to the  
4 music work file.

1 14. The composition system of claim 1 further comprising  
2 a synthesizer engine coupled to the input device for processing  
3 the music control signals based on the instrument sounds contained  
4 in the sound bank;  
5 a mixer coupled to the synthesizer engine for mixing effects  
6 with the processed music control signals; and  
7 a speaker system coupled to the mixer for converting the  
8 mixed music control signals to sound.

1 15. The composition system of claim 14 wherein  
2 the music control signals include a work link specifying a  
3 location storing work link data;  
4 the data I/O engine further stores the work link to the musical  
5 work file; and  
6 the synthesizer engine retrieves the work link data stored at  
7 the location specified by the work link.

1 16. A method comprising the steps of:  
2 receiving music control signals;  
3 receiving at least a portion of a sound bank containing at least  
4 one instrument sound; and  
5 storing the music control signals and received sound bank  
6 portion as a musical work file.

1 17. The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of  
2 modifying the sound bank.

1 18. The method of claim 17 wherein the step of modifying the  
2 sound bank includes adding instrument sounds to, deleting an  
3 instrument sound from and modifying an instrument sound  
4 contained in the sound bank.

1 19. The method of claim 16 wherein the step of receiving music  
2 control signals is achieved using a MIDI keyboard.

1 20. The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of  
2 generating a header to the musical work file.

*Sub A27*

1 21. The method of claim 20 wherein the header includes a title, a  
2 serial number and the composer's name.

1 22. The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of  
2 certifying the musical work file.

1 23. The method of claim 22 wherein the music control signals  
2 include a music sequence, mix changes and effect changes, and  
3 further including the step of storing the music sequence, the mix  
4 changes and the effect changes to the musical work file.

1 24. The method of claim 23 wherein the music control signals  
2 include a work link, and further including the step of storing the  
3 work link to the musical work file.

1 25. The method of claim 16 further comprising the steps of  
2 processing the music control signals based on the instrument  
3 sounds contained in the sound bank;  
4 mixing effects with the processed music control signals; and  
5 converting the mixed music control signals to sound.

1 26. A composition system comprising:  
2       means for receiving music control signals;  
3       means for receiving at least a portion of a sound bank  
4 containing at least one instrument sound; and  
5       means for storing the music control signals and received sound  
6 bank portion as a musical work file.

1 27. A computer-readable medium storing program code for causing  
2 a computer to perform the steps of:  
3       receiving music control signals;  
4       receiving at least a portion of a sound bank containing at least  
5 one instrument sound; and  
6       storing the music control signals and received sound bank  
7 portion as a musical work file.

sub  
A3

1 28. A player system comprising:  
2 an input terminal for receiving a musical work file containing  
3 topology information, music sequence data and a sound bank which  
4 includes at least one instrument sound;  
5 a synthesizer coupled to the input terminal for processing the  
6 music sequence data based on the topology information and the  
7 sound bank; and  
8 a speaker system coupled to the synthesizer for converting the  
9 processed music sequence data to sound.

SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIALIZED FILED

1 29. The player system of claim 28 wherein the input terminal  
2 includes a CD drive.

1 30. The player system of claim 28 wherein the input terminal  
2 includes a network communications interface.

1 31. The player system of claim 28 further comprising a mixer for  
2 mixing effects with the processed music sequence data.

1 32. The player system of claim 31 wherein the topology  
2 information includes initial effect parameters for controlling the  
3 effects.

1 33. The player system of claim 31 wherein the topology  
2 information further includes initial mix parameters for controlling  
3 the mixer.

1 34. The player system of claim 31 wherein  
2 the music sequence data includes a work link specifying a  
3 location storing work link data; and  
4 the synthesizer engine retrieves the work link data referenced  
5 by the work link.

~~Sub 1~~ 35. The player system of claim 28 further comprising a certifier for  
2 certifying right of the player system to convert the processed music  
3 sequence to sound.

1 36. A method comprising the steps of:  
2 receiving a musical work file containing topology information,  
3 music sequence data and a sound bank which includes at least one  
4 instrument sound;  
5 processing the music sequence data based on the topology  
6 information and the sound bank; and  
7 converting the processed music sequence data to sound.

1 37. The method of claim 36 wherein the step of receiving a musical  
2 work file is achieved by a CD drive.

1 38. The method of claim 37 wherein the step of receiving a musical  
2 work file is achieved by a network communications interface.

1 39. The method of claim 36 further comprising the step of mixing  
2 effects with the processed music sequence data.

1 40. The method of claim 39 wherein the topology information  
2 includes initial effect parameters for controlling the effects.

1 41. The method of claim 39 wherein the topology information  
2 further includes initial mix parameters for controlling the step of  
3 mixing.

1 42. The method of claim 36  
2 wherein the music sequence data includes a work link  
3 specifying a location storing work link data; and  
4 further comprising the step of retrieving the work link data  
5 from the location specified by the work link.

*Sub A5*  
1 43. The method of claim 36 further comprising the step of  
2 certifying right of the player system to convert the processed music  
3 sequence to sound.

*Sub A6*  
1 44. A player system comprising:  
2 means for receiving a musical work file containing topology  
3 information, music sequence data and a sound bank which includes  
4 at least one instrument sound;  
5 means for processing the music sequence data based on the  
6 topology information and the sound bank; and  
7 means for converting the processed music sequence data to  
8 sound.

*Sub A6*  
1 45. A computer-readable medium storing program code for causing  
2 a computer to perform the steps of:  
3 receiving a musical work file containing topology information,  
4 music sequence data and a sound bank which includes at least one  
5 instrument sound;  
6 processing the music sequence data based on the topology  
7 information and the sound bank; and  
8 converting the processed music sequence data to sound.